

**From:** Dennis Gies  
**To:** Microsoft ATR  
**Date:** 12/7/01 5:44pm  
**Subject:** Microsoft Settlement.

To Whom it May Concern,

I would like to express my opinion that the settlement reached with Microsoft regarding its anti-trust violations is completely unsatisfactory. In particular, I find that the provisions excluding non-profit software vendors from having the same rights as for-profit companies are completely irresponsible, and in fact will strengthen Microsoft's position in the marketplace rather than place a check on the company's monopolistic expansion. In the past few years (perhaps even decade), Microsoft has efficiently eliminated one competitor after another using tactics which have now been deemed illegal. However, the settlement proposal gives no rights at all to those organizations which are now the primary competitors of Microsoft, specifically the Apache Foundation, the GNU project, and the organizations which develop Sendmail and Perl. Moreover, the settlement gives no rights to those individuals who consist of the primary competition to Microsoft in the O/S space, the developers of the Linux kernel and desktop applications such as KDE and GNOME.

For the Microsoft settlement to be even remotely acceptable, these groups must be given the same rights as for-profit competitors of Microsoft.

Thank you,

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